



## Tuning into challenges

Many children in Ottawa encounter a lack of equity, including limited access to programs that keep them safe and engaged while boosting their development. In the 5\* priority neighbourhoods OrKidstra serves:

- up to 31%** of children and youth, ages 0-17, live in low-income households (compared to the Ottawa average of 10%).
- 44%** of children are living in one-parent families and face additional challenges which limit access to programs.
- 84%** of OrKidstra students identify as visible minorities and often encounter significant systemic barriers.

## Composing solutions, together!

Together in we empowered children and youth from Ottawa's equity-deserving communities to reach for success and build life skills through music. Your generosity makes a lasting impact—see for yourself!

Through our in-school\* and after-school music programming, OrKidstra served over

# 700

kids from equity-deserving communities.

At our new Hub in the high-priority Heron Gate neighbourhood, we welcomed

# 40

new students to participate in our after-school program in Spring 2024.



**"OrKidstra has really helped shape my character. I've had many great mentors who have helped me overcome obstacles."**

Tina, 2024 OrKidstra Graduate,  
7 Years at OrKidstra

Sources: the Ottawa Neighbourhood Study, OrKidstra Parent/Student Survey (2023-24 after-school programs)

\* Centretown (West), Vanier (South), Overbrook, Heron Gate, and Lowertown

• In-school programs supported by funding from the school boards.

Photo credits: Greg Allison Photography and OrKidstra



"Everything OrKidstra is doing for my child's development is invaluable. It is such a unique and rare opportunity. She will carry it with her through adulthood."

OrKidstra Parent

## Love. Courage. Excellence. Belonging.

OrKidstra's 2023-24 season was one of growth, connection, and community thanks to your support!

"OrKidstra has helped me with my creativity, my music, and everything else! OrKidstra is the best after-school activity that I've ever done."

Aiden, age 14, OrKidstra Student,  
9 Years at OrKidstra



OrKidstra served

**300**

students at our after-school program Hubs in Centretown, Vanier, and Heron Gate.

OrKidstra performed at

**19**

community events, such as the NACO Players' Association Fan Fair in support of other charities.



**100%**

of OrKidstra graduates completed high school and pursued post-secondary education.



**98%**

of students said they are more aware of how important it is to be kind to others.



**92%**

of students say they find it more enjoyable to be challenged.



**99%**

of OrKidstra parents say their child is doing better in school.

"OrKidstra has helped me with practicing discipline and critical thinking, especially in school."

Kai, 2024 OrKidstra Graduate, 9 Years at OrKidstra